

PATENT

Atty. Dkt. No. AMAT/2981/CPES/ESPD/PJS

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated April 18, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on July 18, 2005. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 5, 22, 30, 42, 50, 59 and 108-112 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 5, 22, 30 and 108-112 stand rejected and claims 42, 50 and 59 are indicated to be allowable by the Examiner. Claims 5, 22, 30, 108, and 109 are canceled. Claims 113-130 are new. Reconsideration of the remaining rejected claims is requested for reasons presented below.

Claims 5 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over *Lorimer I* (WO 98/48168) or *Lorimer II* (5,685,963) (Fig. 1). Claims 5 and 22 are canceled by applicant. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 30 and 108-112 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Lorimer I* (WO 98/48168) or *Lorimer II* (5,685,963), either taken in view of *Beyer* (5,944,049). Claims 30 and 108-109 are canceled. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 110-112. *Beyer* is a § 102(e) reference that is commonly owned by Applicant and not available under § 103. A statement of common ownership is enclosed in this response. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 30 and 108 and 109 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Lorimer I* (WO 98/48168) or *Lorimer II* (5,685,963), either taken in view of *Krueger* (5,972,183). Claims 30 and 108-109 are cancelled. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

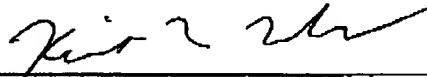
In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed.

PATENT

Att. Dkt. No. AMAT/2081/CPES/ESPD/PJS

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith M. Tackett
Registration No. 32,008
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500
Houston, TX 77056
Telephone: (713) 623-4844
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846
Attorney for Applicant(s)

